

THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

VOL. II.—No. 27.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH, 1915.

PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

Donations to be sent to Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Tchaykovsky, Langham House, Harrow, or Hon. Financial Sec., Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.
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MEETINGS LIST.

Friday, Sept. 17th.
Tower Hill, 12.30 p.m., Miss Chesley, Miss Lynch.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Miss Lynch, Mrs. Drake.
"Salmon and Ball," 5 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Beckton Rd., 7 p.m., Miss Somers, Miss Manicom.
Ordnance Road, 8 p.m., Miss Somers, Miss Manicom.
Piggott St., 7 p.m., Miss Lynch, Mrs. Drake.
Salmon Lane, 8 p.m., Miss Lynch, Mrs. Drake.
Cobden Statue, 6 p.m., Miss O'Callaghan, Mrs. Bouvier.
Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Debate, Miss S. Pankhurst.
Hague St., 3 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst.
Gibraltar Walk, 4 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst, and others.
Saturday, Sept. 18th.
Osborne St. and Whitechapel Rd., 3 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
Salmon Lane, 3 p.m., Miss Lynch.
Grundy St. and Chrisp St., 4 p.m., Miss Lynch, Mrs. Drake.
Knapp Road, 7 p.m., Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Miss Lynch.
Obelisk, 8 p.m., Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
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OUR DAY NURSERY.

At the "Mothers' Arms," Bow, we take care of children (aged from one month to five years) whose mothers go out to work. The charge to the mothers is 3d. a day. The children can come in at 8 and stay till 7. On admission, the children are bathed, and their clothes are changed. All meals are provided. A trained nurse and assistants are in charge of the children, but we welcome volunteers to help to amuse and care for them, and to take them out in the park. Gifts of toys, flowers, clothing and subscriptions towards the upkeep of the nursery are always needed. We also need at present, some more cradles for the babies, and stretcher beds for the older children's afternoon sleep, children's low chairs and perambulators.

As a last resort, our doctor ordered into the day nursery, a year old baby, reduced almost to a skeleton, whom she thought would certainly die. This child has been treated with sea-water injections, and carefully nursed and nourished, and after a week's stay, has recovered so wonderfully that the doctor expects its condition to be normal at the end of another week.

URGENT ! SAVE THE BABIES.

There is an epidemic of infantile diarrhoea in East London. We need more help to fight against it. We have been obliged to engage an extra nurse, and we shall greatly need new laid eggs, Virol, Glaxo, arrowroot, etc., for the children who are ill; also funds to pay for what is necessary to save the babies' lives.

Mothers and Children should make a point of attending the weekly consultations with nurse and doctor at:-

400 Old Ford Rd., Bow, Mondays 2.30 p.m.; 20 Railway St., Poplar, Tuesdays 3 p.m.; 53 St. Leonard's St., Thursdays 2.30 p.m.; 55 Fife Rd., Canning Town, Mondays, 2 to 4 p.m.

DOWN WITH SWEATING !

If a woman does a man's job
she must have a man's pay !

DOWN WITH HIGH PRICES AND BIG PROFITS !

VOTES FOR WORKING WOMEN.

Great JOINT DEMONSTRATION

OF
The East London Federation of the Suffragettes, United Suffragists, Forward Cymric Suffrage Union, Herald League, B.S.P., The Dockers' Union, and branches of the I.L.P., Amalgamated Toolmakers, Engineers and Mechanists, Electrical Trade Union, National Union of Railwaymen, and others.

IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE,

Sunday, September 26th. 4 p.m.

Come in your thousands and send the Government a Budget message.



OURS.



THEIRS.

WAR TIME ECONOMIES.

TO TRAFALGAR SQUARE !

Owing to the Air Raids it has been thought best to transfer the meeting that was fixed for Sunday, September 19th, in the London Opera House, at 7.30 p.m., to Sunday, September 26th, in Trafalgar Square at 4 p.m.

**E.L.F.S. General Meeting,
Monday, 20th, 8 p.m.
400 Old Ford Road.**

Henry W. Nevins, the War Correspondent and friend of Suffragettes and all other fighters for freedom, was wounded in the Dardanelles on August 21st. A shell burst over his head and a piece of it struck him, making a semi-circular cut that exposed his skull. But he did not trouble about the wound. He tied his own bandage and went about his work with scarcely a pause.

DEPUTATION TO McKENNA.

The following were elected at the Portman Rooms on August 15th, to wait on Mr. McKenna, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to lay before him the resolutions carried by the meeting.

Sylvia Pankhurst and C. Drake, E. L. F. S.; C. Despard, Evelyn Sharp, United Suffragists; L. Leigh Rothwell, Organiser of the National Federation of Women's Trade Unions; Grace Neal, Domestic Workers' Union; Robert Williams, Transport Workers' Federation; T. E. Naylor, Secretary London Society of Compositors; W. Devaney, Dockers' Union; T. W. Hoare, Gasworkers; George Lansbury and John Scurr, Herald League; E. C. Fairchild, B.S.P.

Mr. McKenna twice refused to receive the deputation, on the ground that he was too busy, but he finally offered to see Mr. George Lansbury and Miss Sylvia Pankhurst on Friday, September 10th.

Miss Pankhurst asked Mrs. Drake to accompany her, to represent the point of view of the working woman housekeeper, and as Mr. McKenna made no objection, the deputation numbered three.

Mr. George Lansbury said that the deputation had been elected in view of the forthcoming budget, and because of the deputation of bankers that had waited on the Government to press for taxation of food and wages to meet the war expenditure.

He urged that food and wages should not be taxed, but that the Government should turn for the wealth needed to pay for the war to the landowners and the great monopolists. He said that merely to tax war profits was not enough, for the workers had to make the war profits possible. He also urged that when commodities were taxed, a heavier tax should be placed on the more expensive qualities and a lower tax on the cheaper kinds, in order that the poor should not be made to pay disproportionately.

Mr. Lansbury added that the great industrial unrest in the country was mainly due to the high price of food, due not as yet to taxation, but to the efforts of private persons to make increased profits out of the war situation. He said that even in his own home, which was well-to-do for the East End, great economy had had to be practised, and that he had never seen so many children in the streets without shoes and stockings as now. He asked that the Government should buy up and take control of flour, coal, and other necessities, as they had done in the case of sugar, but Mr. McKenna objected that this latter question was one for the President of the Board of Trade, not for the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst pointed out that wages had been raised and war bonuses given in only a minority of trades, and that in no case was the war bonus or increase in wages equivalent to the increase in the cost of living.

To this Mr. McKenna assented. Miss Pankhurst said that it was true that in some trades overtime was being worked, but that those who worked long hours needed more nourishment to keep them going, and that working women housekeepers reported that they had to spend as much or more than the increase in wages derived from overtime on extra food for the workers.

The East London Federation members, who were not the poorest women in East London, reported

(Continued on page 321, col. 1.)

The MEANNESSES OF BUMBLE!

The Carmarthen Guardians have decided to abolish temporarily the dinner of meat and vegetables for the workhouse inmates, and to substitute coffee and bread and cheese.

Yet Mr. McKenna says that the rich would be "miserable" if the superfluous luxuries were cut off.

The President of the Local Government Board has declined the request of the Driffield Board of Guardians to close three recently established children's homes for the duration of the War. The Guardians suggested taking the children back to the Workhouse.

We are glad the President of the Local Government Board has refused to allow the children to be victimised.

LEAGUE OF RIGHTS, Walthamstow Branch
WILLIAM MORRIS HALL.

MEETING, Thursday, Sept. 23rd, 3 p.m.

SPEAKER—
GEORGE LANSBURY.

The
Woman's Dreadnought.

Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes.

400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW, E.
Telephone EAST 1787.

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Bravely and willingly we bear our share of the World's burdens. Why, then, deny us the right to Vote, which would dignify our labour and increase our Power of Service?

WHO PAYS FOR THE WAR?

Mr. McKenna's reply to Friday's deputation shows us the position very clearly. The war is enormously costly and the working people are expected to pay the cost. Fighting, and making the wherewithal to fight, absorb a large proportion of the people. Those who are left are expected to work still harder, in order to make up for the labour that is withdrawn, and to maintain those who take part in the gigantic work of destruction. If the reduced number of available workers cannot bring forth a much greater measure of productive work than that needed in ordinary times, there will be a loss, and the workers are expected to bear that loss, even if it means that they must go short of food and clothes and their children die of starvation.

People who do not work must contribute something also, but as they must not be inconvenienced, and their mode of life must not be changed, their contribution will be small.

The workers are expected to toil harder during the war and to go short of necessities at the same time, and after the war is over they will have to continue working, not only to keep things going as before, but also in order to pay interest to those who have found a way of becoming richer, without working, by lending to the Government some of the money they are not obliged to use, so that they can gain more.

Whilst all the burden of the war is laid upon them, the workers are expected also to give up their liberty—to surrender it absolutely at the will of comfortably-placed officials, who have been making mistakes all through the war, and to employers whose business is to exploit the workers, both in peace and war.

All this we are asked to agree to in the name of freedom!

For many a generation we shall regret it if we do!

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

Dr. C. W. Kimmins placed before the British Association the results of papers on the war written by 1,511 boys and 1,570 girls. From the age of eleven onward, the children showed great anxiety in regard to the price of food. This evidence speaks for itself.

LLOYD GEORGE—COERCIONIST.

The President of the Trade Union Congress, Mr. J. A. Seddon, told the delegates that he did not know how to reply to the telegram which Mr. Lloyd George sent to the Congress, saying that war profits were being limited, and asking trade unionists to secure increased output.

Mr. Seddon asked leave to invite the Munitions Minister to address the Congress. Mr. Lloyd George appeared without delay.

He promised to tell the delegates how the profits of the munition employers were to be limited, but he did not do so. The greater part of his speech he devoted to an attack on trade unionist workers.

Mr. Lloyd George is an adept at combining with meaningless flattery, the effects of which very quickly evaporates poisonous charges, made with the definite object of producing a political atmosphere which will enable him to attain his ends.

He glided lightly over the question of the wages of women employees. He referred to the steadily growing practice of getting the same quantity of work hitherto done by a roomful of men, each paid a skilled worker's wage, from a corresponding number of newcomers, either men at an unskilled labourer's wage or women at a still lower pay, with one or two men paid at the old rates directing them. This practice, which means the cutting down of the standard rates of pay for the vast mass of workers in any given industry, Mr. Lloyd George made comparatively harmless—at the time.

He succeeded altogether in producing an effect of being full of friendliness and goodwill towards his hearers, and thus many pertinent questions remained unasked.

But next day, when his words had been read in cold print, it was decided that the Parliamentary Committee should inquire into Mr. Lloyd George's charges against Trade Unionists and issue a report. It is to be hoped that this report will be published before Lloyd George has swept the country into agreeing to still further compulsion. But already his charges are being exploded by those concerned.

It was also decided that a deputation should wait upon Mr. Lloyd George to urge upon him, "that in the opinion of this Congress the introduction of female labour on Government contracts to do work previously done by men, at wages below the rate paid to the men for the same work, is a violation of the House of Commons Fair Wages resolution."

LONDON UNDEFENDED.

The Zeppelin visitation is a very terrible one, especially to those who are unable to discriminate between the noise of firing shells from an anti-aircraft gun and the explosion of falling bombs.

Almost every newspaper to-day is either criticising or explaining the military conduct of the war, and predicting its course with most conspicuous lack of success.

We realise that to form a sound judgment on this matter, it is essential to be supplied with actual experience of the local conditions and difficulties of the battlefield, and of facts that are purposely hidden from the public. We have therefore refrained from offering war criticisms, war explanations, or war advice.

But there are many questions in our minds concerning the air raids, and we feel that these questions must also present themselves to our readers.

We ask ourselves how it is that the Zeppelins have been so many times to London, though the aircraft of the Allies have never reached Berlin, and what means the Germans use for keeping aeroplanes away.

It appears that the Government's first and chiefly used method of preserving London from attack by aircraft has been an attempt to hide her in the darkness, to make believe that she is not here. But London is very big to hide, and the attempt to do so seems rather like that of the ostrich, which buries its little head in the sand.

The second method of protection appears to be that of driving the Zeppelins away by anti-aircraft guns situated in various parts of the town, but this results in the bombardment of poor London by her own powerful guns.

We wonder whether it will now be found possible to drive away the Zeppelins, either by guns or aircraft, before they are seen hovering over the houses, where every shot must take effect. It appears that since the raid of September 8th, the Zeppelins actually have been driven back.

It is rumoured, though we know not whence the rumour comes, or what is its value, that England had no protecting aircraft until the larger raid on September 8th, but that when that happened a number of aeroplanes were recalled from France.

When Parliament met on September 14th, questions were asked as to why the defence of London had not been seriously considered until then.

MILITARIST GROUP DEMANDS CONSCRIPTION.

When Parliament met on September 14th, the extreme militarist group showed its determination to bring to a head the question of Conscription, both for military and industrial purposes.

That morning a statement demanding compulsory "National Service," signed by fifty-two of the group had appeared in the Press, and this was referred to when Captain Guest asked the Prime Minister whether he would give an opportunity for the House to discuss Conscription, or would receive a deputation from the Militarist group.

Mr. Booth asked for a secret session of the House of Commons to discuss the military situation.

Mr. Asquith, (who, though always a hard and narrow politician incapable of large sympathies, is yet showing himself to be truer to what principles he has than others who have professed more) refused to agree to the secret session. He pointed out to Members of Parliament who have become officers in the Army, that though the rule that when they come home on leave whilst on active service they may not take part in politics, will not be applied during this war, they should feel themselves "under a strict sense of responsibility." He reminded them that they sit in Parliament, not as representatives of the Army, but of their constituents, a fact which some of them appear to forget. He added that it would be most unjust that men who happened to be both Members of Parliament and serving in the Army should claim to represent the Army in the House.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

The British Association met in Manchester last week, and in some of its deliberations, showed how unscientific, scientific men can sometimes be.

Professor Schuster, the President, in speaking of the war, said:

"Science gladly gives all the power she wields to the service of the State. Sorrowfully she covers her face, because that power, accumulated through the peaceful efforts of the sons of all nations, was never meant for death and destruction; gladly she helps, because a war wantonly provoked threatens civilisation."

Such statements are rhetorical rather than scientific.

In a subsequent debate, Sir Thomas Holland complained that "in the utilisation of technical science" Germany had had "enormous advantage" and that whilst in this country scientific organisations were largely dependent on private charity, in continental countries the learned societies were supported by the State and their members were paid.

Many social questions were discussed at the various meetings of the Association, but little that was either new or valuable was said.

The only social or industrial question that was debated scientifically, or appeared to have been the subject of anything approaching a scientific investigation, was that concerning "fatigue from the economic stand-

point" a report on which was presented by a committee presided over by Professor Muirhead.

Observations had been made in factories of various kinds, with a view to ascertaining the variations in output and in the accident rate, during the hours of each spell of work. It was shown that there was a higher output of work in the second hour than in the first, but that after the second hour the rate of production per hour steadily decreased. It was generally agreed that it was imperative even in the interest of output alone, that working hours should be limited, especially in this emergency time. Three shifts of eight hours were advocated as giving better results, than two shifts of twelve hours.

In the other debates the learned professors seemed to be out of their depth in dealing with economic problems, and one felt more confidence in their judgment, either as to the movements and numbers of the stars, and the millions of years that the sun may continue to shine, or in regard to the practical application of science to manufacture, than in questions of political economy.

It is inspiring to learn that when watered with bacterised peat, discovered after six years' patient work, "four potato sets, weighing a few ounces in all, placed in a small box of moss litter," produced 31 lbs. of potatoes in eight weeks; that 40 runner beans, watered in the same way, "yielded a bushel and a-half of beans weekly," and that one tomato plant bore 16 lbs. of fruit at once. Also that science is about to bring together the cotton grower and the cotton spinner, in order to increase immeasurably the strength and durability of the woven fabric, and that in semi-coked coal we are to have a fuel that will be as smokeless as coke, and burn as cheerfully as coal.

The demand of the hour is for economies of this nature, and wonderful human brains provide the discovery to meet the call. When the demand is to husband human energy and to make human life more pleasant, we shall have noiseless machinery, producing no inconvenient heat, and all the processes of manufacture that are dangerous to the workers will be superseded. We can imagine that even mining may be effected without the descent of the miner, by some giant screw, that will bore its way into the earth, turned by mechanical power.

THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

Annie Elizabeth Hewitt, a single woman carrying on business as a draper at Mitcham, was fined £2 at Croydon for refusing to fill up a registration form and £1 for failing to attend at Mitcham Vestry Hall for the purpose when requested to do so by the local registration authority.

Defendant was also ordered to pay £2 12s. 6d. costs.

She did not appear, and when summoned she said, "I should think my face will tell you how old I am."

The alternative to the fine was 21 days' imprisonment.

The prosecuting solicitor said there had been only two other cases of the kind in England.

The National Register Act does not give power to imprison. The magistrate has broken the law. An action for wrongful imprisonment should be brought.

We happen to know that a few fines have been ordered, but that numbers of people have not been meddled with for ignoring the Register, and many who have refused to pay fines have been allowed to go scot-free.

Mr. James Sellar, who left South Australia because of his objection to conscription, has gone to prison for refusing to sign the National Register.

After October 1st, soldiers are to fill up forms for separation allowances at the recruiting office. This is said to be to save time. Soldiers must be careful to remember to do this on enlistment, or there may be trouble in getting the allowances later on.

Since the South African War 20,000 miners have been killed and 2,500,000 seriously injured.

DEPUTATION TO McKENNA.

(Continued from front page)

that they were now unable to buy meat more than once a week, and just as the women and their families were going short of meat, they were going short of other food.

In East London, thin flank of beef that cost 4d. a lb. before the war, cost 9d. a lb. now, scraps of mutton that before the war were 2½d. a lb., were now 6½d., whilst cuts of beef and mutton that were 8d. a lb. before the war, were now 1s. 2d. a lb.

Miss Pankhurst handed Mr. McKenna the following budgets, prepared by E.L.F.S. members to show him the rise in the cost of living that had taken place since the war began.

A WORKING WOMAN'S BUDGET.

This is the budget of a woman with ten children—three at work. The mother is a widow:—

	s. d.	s. d.
Bread, 16 qtns. at 4½d. qtn...	6 0	Now—7½d. qtn... 10 0
Margarine, 3 lbs. at 6d. lb...	6 0	—8d. lb... 2 0
Milk, 3 tins at 3½d. tin...	0 11	—4d. tin... 1 6
Flour, 2 qtns. at 3½d. qtn...	0 11	—6d. qtn... 1 6
Sugar, 5 lbs. at 1½d. lb...	0 7	—3½d. lb... 2 4
Tea, 1½ lbs. at 1s. 2d. lb...	1 8	—1s. 1½d. lb... 2 4½
Soap, 2 lbs. at 3d. lb...	0 6	—4d. lb... 0 8
Matches, 1 doz. at 1½d. doz...	0 1½	—3d. doz... 0 3
Coals, 1 cwt. at 1s. 2d. cwt...	1 2	—1s. 10d. cwt... 1 10
Beans, 1 qrt. at 2½d. qrt...	0 2	—5d. qrt... 0 5
Cheese, 1 lb. at 8d. lb...	0 8	—1s. lb... 1 0
Dripping, 1 lb. at 6d. lb...	0 6	—8d. lb... 0 8
Currants, 1 lb. at 3d. lb...	0 3	—5d. lb... 0 5
Shoulder of Mutton at 4½d. lb...	0 3	—8½d. lb... 4 3
lb., 6 lbs. at 8d. lb...	0 8	—1s. lb... 1 0
Corned Beef, 1 lb. at 8d. lb...	0 8	—1s. lb... 1 0
Treacle, 1 lb. at 3d. lb...	0 3	—5d. lb... 0 5
Potatoes, 42 lbs. at 4½d. lb...	1 9	—½d. lb... 1 9
	£1 0 4½	£1 11 10½

This shows an increase of about 57%.

EAST LONDON FOOD PRICES.

	Pre-War.	Now.
Cheese, per lb....	0 7½	1 0
Sugar, " "	0 1½	0 3½
Dripping, " "	0 4	0 7
Suet, " "	0 8	1 0
Butter, " "	1 0	1 6
Margarine, " "	0 6	0 8
Bread, per qtn....	0 5	0 7½
Flour, " "	0 4½	0 9
Treacle, per lb....	0 2	0 5
Cakes, " "	0 4	0 5
Biscuits, " "	0 4	0 5
Eggs ... 16 for a	1 0	8 for a 1 0
Bacon, per lb. ...	0 10	1 2
Fish—		
Bloaters ...perdoz.	0 9	1 0
Kippers ...perpair	0 0½	2d. to 4d.
Cond'n's'd milk, pertin	0 3	0 4
Jam, per lb. ...	0 3	0 5
Spiced or tinned meat,		
per lb. 0 8	1 0	
Tinned herrings, " "	0 4½	0 5½
Beef, stew, " "	0 4	0 7
" flank, " "	0 6½	0 8
" leg, " "	0 7	0 9
Mutton, leg, " "	0 8½	1 0
" scrap, " "	0 5	0 7½

Miss Pankhurst declared that the Government ought to have taken steps and must take steps to cope with the matter. Such increases in the cost of living caused tremendous hardship where a man was earning from 30s. to £2 a week and there was a family to maintain. Many families were supported by women earning much lower wages. The sweating of women employed on Government work was notorious. She had with her a letter from Macnochie's protesting against an accusation that they paid their women workers too little, on the ground that 13s. 9d. for a 55 hours a week was the recognised Government standard of pay for an adult woman.

To show the way in which the high prices were affecting the small wage earners, she pointed to the fact that at the outbreak of war, the E.L.F.S. opened in the Borough of Poplar three infant welfare and maternity centres, from which free milk is now distributed to hundreds of mothers and babies daily, dinners to expectant and nursing mothers are given free, or on payment of 2d., whilst free doctoring and nursing are supplied to all babies whose mothers apply for aid. Also the St. Catherine's nurses have come into the Borough since the war to give advice on child nurture, and the Poplar Infant Care Society is giving similar advice. Yet, whilst all this had been done since the War, the infant death rate in the Borough had increased at the same time, because no charity could

provide all the nourishment that was needed, and the rising prices of necessities was forcing countless numbers of women and children to go short. Some mothers habitually went without breakfast in order that there might be more to spare for the rest of the family.

Mr. McKenna admitted the truth of these statements, saying that the rise of the infant death rate was appalling, but that it could not be stopped for "that is War."

Miss Pankhurst protested against the heavy interest paid on the War Loan, pointing out that for every £100 of War Loan the nation would have to pay back £235 in the course of 30 years.

Mr. McKenna asked, with a smile, how the money was to be raised otherwise.

Miss Pankhurst asked why the Government did not take by forced loan, without interest, the superfluous money that some people have?

Mr. McKenna said he did not know that a Government could do anything so drastic, but that war profits would be taxed.

Miss Pankhurst asked why the Government had waited more than a year before beginning to tax war profits, whilst it had been borrowing, at heavy interest, money which would have to be paid back.

Mr. McKenna objected to the question, and said he had not been Chancellor of the Exchequer very long.

Miss Pankhurst said she wanted to know how war profits were going to be taxed. Were they to be limited on the lines of the Munitions Act? She would like to have a definite statement as to how profits were to be limited under the Munitions Act.

Mr. McKenna said that that was not his business, such questions must be put to the Minister of Munitions.

Miss Pankhurst said that as she understood the statements made by Ministers, the limitation of profits under the Munitions Act was to be follows:—

If a munition manufacturer made a profit of £10,000 on an output of £100,000 before the war, he can make up to £12,000 on the same output now. If he doubles his output he can make £24,000 profit. If he doubles the output again he can make £48,000 profit, and so on. That sort of profit limitation, Miss Pankhurst thought, was inadequate.

Mr. McKenna again protested that this had nothing to do with him.

Miss Pankhurst said that she wanted to know whether the Chancellor was going to deal with war profits in the way she had described, or whether he was going to take all profits above those made before the war.

Mr. McKenna said that he could not disclose his budget, but that manufacturers must have some incentive to increase production.

Miss Pankhurst said that people whose wages ranged from £2 to 7s. or 8s. a week ought not to have to pay for that incentive.

Mr. McKenna said that the war had got to be paid for; that its cost had been greatly underestimated and that he had got to find the money.

Miss Pankhurst said: "Why do you not nationalise the coal mines? They have been giving you a great deal of trouble lately."

Mr. McKenna said: "What, in a war?"

Miss Pankhurst then asked why the Government did not take all incomes above the amount necessary for simple comfort, why did it not take everything above say £500 a year, or £2 a week for each adult and £1 or 10s. a week for each child?

Mr. McKenna smiled and said that rich people would not submit.

Miss Pankhurst asked whether they would rather submit or give up the war.

Mr. McKenna said that people's whole mode of life could not be altered. Rich people had their commitments and would be miserable if their incomes were greatly reduced.

Miss Pankhurst asked whether it would be better that the poorer people should starve.

Mr. McKenna said he had not so much faith in Governments as some people. He did not know how people could be forced to give up their money.

Miss Pankhurst said: "You have managed to get the people registered."

Mr. McKenna said that that was only putting names on paper.

Miss Pankhurst said that the Government had found it easy to punish soldiers' mothers who, in order to get a shilling or two more on their allowances, had pretended they had a shilling or two more from their sons than was actually the case. Mr. McKenna was very stern, "do you approve of their making false representations?"

Miss Pankhurst said: "Their excuse is that the War Office promised that if a son allotted his mother 3s. 6d., the War Office would make it up to 12s. 6d. and the War Office had not kept that promise."

Mrs. Drake said that the Old Age Pensioners could not live on 5s. a week and were obliged to go into the Workhouse.

Mr. McKenna assented.

Miss Pankhurst said: "It costs more to keep them in the Workhouse."

Mr. McKenna agreed.

Mr. McKenna then said that the half hour he had promised to the deputation was drawing to an end and that perhaps the deputation would like him to talk to them for a little while.

He said that it was often impossible to keep down food prices because they rose in the world market during a war.

The deputation said "freights."

Mr. McKenna agreed that in some cases freight charges had been excessive. The deputation suggested that shipping should be nationalised or freight charges controlled. Mr. McKenna said this would be difficult. He then explained that our exports had got to be paid for by imports and that our exports had fallen. The country was not doing enough work.

Miss Pankhurst said: "You have still thousands of women who are unemployed."

"Well how is that now?" said Mr. McKenna, "What is the truth about it?"

"Why does the Government allow the women to be paid less than the men?" asked Miss Pankhurst.

Mr. McKenna went on to say that as imports must be paid for by exports and productive work was reduced, he, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, must make it impossible by taxation for the mass of people to buy clothes and even some kinds of food.

Mrs. Drake said "motor cars."

Mr. McKenna waved his hand: "Oh yes motor cars of course."

Miss Pankhurst said that undernourished workers were not productive, so that it was a short-sighted policy to starve them.

Mr. McKenna said that he would not tax milk and bread.

Miss Pankhurst said people could not do good work for long hours on milk and bread alone, but beside that the price of both milk and bread had gone up.

Mrs. Drake said that when commodities were taxed, the price was usually raised before the tax was put on, and beyond the amount of the tax.

Mr. McKenna said that millions were spent on the War each day.

Mrs. Drake said "and half of that is profit."

Mr. McKenna said that the amount of profit was greatly exaggerated, also the amount of waste, these things were as nothing to the millions being spent.

Mrs. Drake said: "If a man made more than a certain amount of profit, I should have him hung."

Mr. McKenna rose to bow the deputation out.

The L.C.C., in the Deptford area, charge 2½d. for children's dinners. How is this to be paid when women's wages are so low?

COERCION!

The Munitions Act.

Edward James Markham, a circular sawyer, at Caxton Hall Metropolitan Munitions Tribunal, asked the Court for a certificate to leave his present work. He was in a controlled establishment, earning 37s. a week, which was 4s. below the trade union rate. This wage made it impossible for him to become a union member.

Markham stated that his hours were 52 weekly; but he was not paid for overtime, even when he worked 60 or 70 hours, except 6d. which was given for tea. He wished to become an hourly worker, because high prices made it impossible to keep his family on 37s.

The application was dismissed, the President remarking that the employers were not unreasonable, and that the Minister of Munitions had ample power to deal with wages.

It is high time to supersede or amend the Munitions Act. Workers are little better than slaves, whilst employers possess unlimited powers over workers and profits!

At the Manchester Munitions Court, two workmen who applied to be allowed to leave their employers to take higher posts in Munition factories elsewhere, were refused.

In another case, a workman said he was given no work at his place of employment in consequence of slackness of labour in other departments. He stated that for as long as three hours he had sat doing nothing, and he therefore left.

The firm's representative said work was slack, and they were unable to do the work because their men were enlisting so rapidly. The case was dismissed.

Workers in munition factories are deprived of their Unemployment Insurance Cards if they leave without permission and a "Certificate of Clearance."

HOSPITALITY!

Four Belgian workmen left the employ of the Mechanical Produce Company because they were dissatisfied with their conditions. They have been committed to the Birmingham Munitions Tribunal.

THE DEFENCE OF THE REALM ACT.

In the House of Lords, Lord Strachie complained that the Government had not set an example in economy. The salaries of Ministers had been increased, and an additional Whip appointed.

Lord Parmoor asked on whose authority the Labour Leader case had been heard *in camera*. Our legal liberties depended on criminal proceedings being heard in public, and he was not prepared to trust the Department of Public Prosecutions to decide whether or not a case should be heard *in camera*.

The Lord Chancellor refused to say who was responsible for the trial *in camera*. He said that the Defence of the Realm Acts were "mild and benevolent" and that he was "astonished at their moderation." Then he talked about spies, well knowing that spies had nothing whatever to do with this case.

Lord St. Davids supported the Lord Chancellor, saying that "The talk of safeguarding the public is out of date."

Those who wish to retain some semblance of impartiality in the administration of justice, should bestir themselves, or they will find that all our constitutional liberties have become out of date!

At the Mansion House Police Court, on Monday, the general secretary of the I.L.P., Mr. Francis Johnson, and others appeared to show cause why certain printed publications should not be "destroyed or otherwise disposed of." In spite of protests, the magistrate decided to hear the case *in camera*.

MORE TROUBLE IN S. WALES.

The engine drivers in the employ of the Taff Vale Railway, which serves the Rhondda, Aberdare, and other valleys, threaten to go on strike. They demand an increase in the War bonus; also an advance in their minimum wage to 30s.

"We women don't want to be compelled to serve our country; we want to be allowed." Mrs. Despard, Kingsway Hall Meeting.

EAST LONDON FEDERATION
OF THE SUFFRAGETTES.

OBJECTS: To secure the Parliamentary Vote for every Woman over 21, and to promote the Social and Industrial Welfare of Women.
Entrance Fee ... 1d. Subscription ... 1d. a Month.

BRANCH REPORTS.

BOW.

400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW.

A meeting will be held in the Women's Hall on Sunday, at 8 p.m.; speakers: Miss S. Pankhurst, Miss Haughton, and Mrs. Toller. Music as usual. Debates will be held on Friday evenings, beginning on Sept. 17th, at 8 p.m. The chair will be taken by Miss S. Pankhurst. Our Tuesday afternoon meetings will start again on the 21st, when Mrs. Tyson will be the speaker. Come and bring friends. Helpers are much wanted to work up all these meetings, as they have all been dropped during the summer. A special effort should be made to make them known.

The General Meeting is at 400 Old Ford Road, Monday, Sept. 20th. The big Demonstration will now be held in Trafalgar Square on Sept. 26th, at 4 p.m., instead of the London Opera House at 7 p.m. Please note change of date and time. Members please do all you can to make this Demonstration a huge success! Poster parades will be held on Saturdays 18th and 25th, starting from the International Suffrage Shop, 5 Duke St., Adelphi, at 3 p.m. Helpers are wanted both to carry posters and distribute bills.

Dreadnought sales, week ending Sept. 11th—929 Miss O'Brien 200, Mrs. Farrall 46, Mrs. Crabb 36, Miss Bennett 30, Miss Bertram 57; Special Meetings 432; City and District 280.

POPLAR.

THE WOMEN'S HALL, 20 RAILWAY ST.
Organiser: Mrs. Drake.

We have had fine meetings during the week. Our speakers were Miss Lynch, Mrs. Bouvier, and Miss Chesley. Will the members please try and come along on Tuesday evenings and Friday afternoons, and bring a friend? All will be welcomed. Do try, friends, to attend meetings; you know it is very discouraging for a speaker to come along and only find a few members. Let us all try to have a good crowd attending, and so show the speakers we appreciate their coming to interest us and to further our Cause. Nowadays, we hear a great deal of slackers, please do not let that term apply to us members of the E.L.F.S., but let us all try to do "our bit." Also try to make the **Dreadnought** known. Do not forget that September subscriptions are due.

Collected at "Green's," Cubitt Town, by Miss E. Lagsding and Miss D. Morley, 15s. 9d.; at "Green's," Blackwall, by Mrs. Toller, 9s. 1d.; by Mrs. Dowling 1s.

Dreadnoughts sold during week ending Sept. 11th—144. Distributed 1,000.

HACKNEY.

Offices: 175 DALSTON LANE
(Facing Hackney Downs Station).

Papers can be obtained at this address at any time.

We are holding our open-air meetings earlier for the present, so will our members who are at home during the day please volunteer to meet the speaker and sell papers? Thanks to Miss Sands and Mrs. Fix for doing this.

A splendid open-air meeting was held at Morning Lane last Saturday evening, when a volunteer from the crowd made an excellent speech on conditions in munition factories.

Our Tuesday afternoon meetings have begun again, now that the holidays are over, and we want them to be an even greater success than before.

We must all help to work up the Trafalgar Square Demonstration.

Papers sold 146. Distributed 100.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

NORTH LONDON M.P.U.

Hon. Sec.: MR. H. G. EVERETT,
c/o Mr. Innes, 31 Balme Road, Southgate Road.

A very fine meeting was held in Finsbury Park on Sunday, at which Rev. S. Franklin very kindly spoke. Also a very good meeting on Wednesday at Highbury Corner, when Mrs. Bouvier very kindly spoke.

Sir George Askwith has awarded the Northumberland miners an increase in wages of 3d. a day. The coal owners have raised the price of coal by 1s. a ton in consequence. As a collier cuts, on a conservative estimate, from 20 to 30 tons of coal a week, the coal owners are making an extra profit of several shillings a day on the output of each of the thousands of men in the colliery, because of this increased wage.

This is paid for by the consumer and especially by the poorest consumer who has no one left on whom to retaliate.

Dr. Yves Guyot, the distinguished Frenchman, was asked to address the Economic Science Section of the British Association. He declared that war represents an excess of consumption; that economy is only a negative virtue; and that intensity of production is the positive virtue.

Postwomen have made their appearance in Manchester. We understand their pay is the same as postmen's.

HELP THE NEXT DEMONSTRATION.

(Continued from front page.)

Sunday, Sept. 19th.

Dog Market, Bethnal Green, 11 a.m., Miss Lynch, Miss O'Callaghan.
Regents Park, 3 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier and others.

Victoria Park, 3.30 p.m., Miss Somers, Miss S. Pankhurst.

Women's Hall, Bow 8 p.m., Miss Pankhurst, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Toller.
Dock Gates, 6 p.m., Mrs. Drake, Miss Manicom.

Monday, Sept. 20th.

Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Gen. Meeting.
Morning Lane and Mare St., 6 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

Custom House, 5 p.m., Miss Lynch.
"Peacock," 6.30 p.m., Miss Lynch.

Sturly Street, 6 p.m., Mrs. Drake and others.

Tuesday, Sept. 21st.

Sloane Square, 12 noon, Mrs. Bouvier.
Salmon Lane, 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Charles St. and Exmouth St., 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

Poplar Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Miss Pranker, Mrs. Drake.
175 Dalston Lane, 3 p.m., Mrs. Gregory, Miss Manicom.

Women's Hall, Bow, 3 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss Beamish.
Outside "Spratt's," 1 p.m., Miss Lynch.

West India Dock, 5 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Mrs. Drake.
Osborne St. and Whitechapel Rd., 7 p.m., Miss Lynch.

Wednesday, Sept. 22nd.

Chrisp St. and Charles St., 7 p.m., Mrs. Drake, Mrs. Toller.
Chrisp St. and Grundy St., 8 p.m., Mr. Mackinlay, Mrs. Drake.

Morpeth Street, 3 p.m., Miss Lynch.
Ford Road, 6.30 p.m., Miss Lynch.
Coborn Road Station, 7.30 p.m., Miss Lynch.

Thursday, Sept. 23rd.

Dalston Lane, 7 p.m., Miss Manicom.
175 Dalston Lane, 8 p.m., Miss Haughton, Miss Manicom.

124 Barking Rd., 8 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
53 St. Leonard's St., 8 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst.

Hackney Factory Meeting, 1 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss Manicom.
Tower Hill, 12.30 p.m., Miss O'Callaghan, Mrs. Bouvier.

Outside "Bryant and May's," 6 p.m., Miss Lynch.

Friday, Sept. 24th.

Outside "Green's," 1 p.m., Miss Lynch, Mrs. Drake.
Piggott St., 6.30 p.m., Miss Lynch, Mrs. Drake.

Beckton Rd., 8 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss O'Callaghan.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs. Gregory, Mrs. Drake.

Women's Hall (Debate), 8 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst, Miss Chesley.
Armagh Rd., 3 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

Highbury Corner, 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Mr. Everett.

Saturday, Sept. 25th.

Stepney, near Station, 3 p.m., Miss S. Pankhurst, Miss O'Callaghan.
Hague St., 3 p.m., Miss Lynch.

Gibraltar Walk, 4 p.m., Miss Lynch.
Marble Arch, 5.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Manicom.

Rathbone St., "Whitehouse," 7 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss O'Callaghan.
"Boleyn," 8 p.m., Miss Lynch, Miss O'Callaghan.

Sunday, Sept. 26th.

Hyde Park, 12 noon, Mrs. Bouvier.
Demonstration 4 p.m., Trafalgar Square.

Mr. McKenna has said that Great Britain is not turning out enough work. The people of the Isle of Man are starving for want of work. Mr. C. Copeland Smith, a Wesleyan Minister, of Douglas, has started a hosiery factory, and has collected in voluntary subscriptions some £350. The enterprise is handicapped, like many such enterprises in this country, for lack of funds. Yet the Prince of Wales' Fund, which might be used for such purposes, is being hoarded by order of the Government.

The Shirtmaking Board of Ireland has fixed the minimum rate of wages for women other than learners, at 3½d. an hour, while for learners, the weekly rates, based on a week of 50 hours, range from 3s. 6d. to 11s., according to age and length of experience. Minimum piece rates have also been fixed for shirtmaking done by home-workers. The rates will come into operation on 6th December.

EQUAL PAY FOR MEN & WOMEN

Sir William Beardmore, Glasgow, writes in the *Engineer*, that the results of women's work in his munition firm are *astounding*. So great is their enthusiasm, that they became adepts in the various branches in a remarkably short time. "Whether done by day or by night, their work is just as good, and just as speedy as that of men." The girls will not admit that the work of handling 4½-in. shells is too heavy for them, even without mechanical assistance or help from the men labourers.

Messrs. Beardmore contemplate increasing the number of women munition workers in their factory, since their ability and speed is so praiseworthy.

Why then do some munition firms pay women 8s. to 14s., and even 6s. to 12s., a week, where men got 26s., 32s., and upwards, weekly?

Equal pay for men and women must be the motto of women workers!

Dean & Beale, Old Kent Road, pay 13s. 9d. a week for making filters for soldiers. The women work ten hours a day, and five hours on Saturday. One woman employed by this firm, has to pay 2s. 6d. a week to have her baby minded—this does not include food, which is extra. This 2s. 6d. a week makes a big hole in so small a wage.

WOMEN'S VOTES AND WAGES
IN AMERICA.

The United States Commission on Industrial Relations, appointed by President Wilson, has just issued its report.

The commissioners strongly urge the granting of equal political rights to women, "as one of the means by which women in industry may obtain living wages." They set forth the following conclusions:—

"1. As a result of their unprotected condition, women and children are exploited in industry, trade, domestic service, and agriculture, to an extent which threatens their health and welfare, and menaces the well-being of future generations.

"2. The competition of women and children is a direct menace to the wage and salary standards of men.

"3. The conditions under which women are employed in domestic service and in agriculture, merit the attention of the nation no less than does their employment in manufacture and trade. Not only is the economic condition of women employed in agriculture and domestic service a matter of grave concern, but they are subject to overwork, unreasonable hours, and personal abuse of various kinds, from which they have been largely relieved in factories and stores through agitation and legislation.

"4. The position of women in industry has been rendered doubly hard by reason of their lack of training for industrial work, by the over supply of such labour and the consequent competition, by their traditional position of dependence, and by their disfranchisement."

The following recommendations are made:

"1. The recognition both by public opinion and in such legislation as may be enacted, of the principle that women should receive the same compensation as men for the same service.

"2. Until this principle is recognised, and women are accorded equal political rights, the extension of State protection of women, through legislation regulating working conditions, hours of service, and minimum wages, is highly desirable.

"3. The increased organisation of working women for self-protection and the improvement of their industrial conditions.

"4. The inclusion of all women working for wages, whether in industry, trade, domestic service or agriculture, under future legislation regulating their wages, hours, or working conditions."

WOMEN'S ONE-DAY STRIKE.

The women of New York State, the question of whose enfranchisement will shortly be submitted to the referendum vote of the men electors, have decided to adopt a one-day strike to take place either at the end of September or at the beginning of October. On the day of the strike, the women are merely asked to remain at home, to show what would happen if their labour outside the home were withdrawn.

It is pointed out that the men of Belgium and the women of Finland won the Vote by strikes.

The *Manchester Guardian* reports that women are employed at the blast furnaces of the German Luxembourg Coal and Iron Co., that they receive the same wages as men, and are not allowed to work overtime.

THE FIRST ZEPPELIN.

There were four of us on top of a bus in Burdett Road. We had been watching the searchlights play upon a fish-shaped cloud somewhat lower than the other more irregular shaped ones. Suddenly a bright light like a shooting star, exploded near the tail; then we heard a dull report. The strange cloud was a Zeppelin—the first I had seen—the searchlights had discovered it, and the guns from — were firing at it.

Then more bright lights, and the reports followed in quick succession. The air was charged with the exciting smell of gunpowder. The bus was stopped. We leaned over the front and asked why? Because it was dangerous to pass the bridge, we were told. Men ran along the streets shouting out "Zepps. Put out your lights." Where bright lights were showing in some houses, they banged at the doors. People looked out from their windows, and some ran into the roadway.

We watched the Zeppelin. One moment we saw its sinister shape—the next, it had vanished. The long swords of light crossed and recrossed in the sky, trying to find it, but it had gone.

Then the sky over the city was illuminated a deep red—bombs had been dropped and damage done. The flames shot up, but the guns were silent now, although the searchlights still flashed across the sky.

The bus moved on through the darkened streets, only to be stopped at the — by the news that if we wished to go citywards, we must proceed on foot. All traffic in that direction was stopped.

P. LYNCH.

OUR BRISTOL CAMPAIGN.

There was a good sale of the *WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT* at the Trade Union Congress in Bristol. The paper was cordially received by the delegates, many of whom came back to buy several additional copies. As there is now a considerable demand for the *DREADNOUGHT* in Bristol, Flynn's, the Bomb Shop, Horsefair; Hodgson's, Victoria Street; and Dowling's Library, Queen's Road, are stocking the paper. The *DREADNOUGHT* can, of course, be obtained through any newsagent. Newsagents can get the paper through Smith's or Wyman's.

Three Bristol friends very kindly helped Miss Smyth to sell a total of 534 *DREADNOUGHTS* during her few days' stay in Bristol. We hope that they will now become regular sellers.

In addition to the Kingsley Hall meeting on September 7th, a very successful open-air meeting was held with the U.S. at Broad Quay on September 9th.

TREASURER'S APPEAL.

Readers will remember that on July 31st I made a special appeal for an "August Milk Fund," and suggested a collection in the little Pillar Box sent out to each of our 1,000 postal subscribers.

We are now well into September, and I would be glad to receive the family collection, as funds are very low, and the babies have developed healthy appetites, which will brook no curtailment of supplies!

BARBARA TCHAYKOVSKY, M.D.
Langham House, Harrow.

"GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED" held over for lack of space.

THE GLUT OF FRUIT.

Reports of a glut of fruit are published in the newspapers. A good way of using some of the surplus fruit would be to send it to our "Cost Price" restaurants at 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, and 20 Railway Street, Poplar, where large quantities can be used, and will be greatly appreciated.

SUNDAY MEETING, September 19.

REGENTS PARK, 3 p.m.
Mrs. BOUVIER, and others.